

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Covenant House Alaska****Federal Tax ID: 13-3419755****Project Title:**

Covenant House Alaska - Covenant House Facility Expansion

State Funding Requested: \$ 5,000,000
One-Time Need**House District: Anchorage Areawide (17-32)****Brief Project Description:**

Covenant House has seen a 58% increase in the number of daily visits by homeless and at-risk youth, and must expand its facilities to better serve this population

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$22,000,000**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Federal Funds	\$5,000,000	2008				
Other	\$7,000,000	2008				
Total	\$12,000,000					

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

In FY2007, 3,165 youth received services from Covenant House. These youth included the homeless, runaway, and at-risk populations that needed emergency shelter and assistance in education, employment, and health care. In the last three years, Covenant House has seen a 58% increase in its average daily census. In order to continue to meet the needs of Alaska's youth, Covenant House must relocate to a new, larger facility in downtown Anchorage.

Youth from around the state utilize Covenant House's services and a new facility will have statewide implications. Providing effective housing and social services in turn lessens Alaska's rate of youth violence, gang activity, drug and alcohol abuse, and incarceration.

Covenant House raises \$3.5 million in operating funds per year. In addition, Covenant House intends to leverage the state funding 2:1 from private and federal sources.

Project Timeline:

Work on relocation and construction of a new facility would begin immediately.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Covenant House Alaska

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Deirdre Cronin

Phone Number: 339-4203

Address: 609 F St., Anchorage

Email: dphayer@covhouse.alaska.com

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

2008 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**MUNICIPAL PRIORITY ISSUES*****Capital Budget*****Economic & Community Development****PROJECT NAME:** COVENANT HOUSE**PROJECT TYPE:** Community Enhancement**GRANT REQUEST:** \$10,000,000**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Covenant House Alaska is a private, non-profit agency that has provided services for homeless, runaway and at-risk youth ages 13 to 20 since 1988. Its programming includes a 40 bed emergency shelter, 24 beds for transitional housing and a Community Services Center that offers walk-in services daily to over 45 youth offering assistance with education, employment and health care. In Fiscal Year 2007, 3,165 youth received services at Covenant House. State funding will assist Covenant House to relocate, and construct a new Crisis Center for Covenant House in downtown Anchorage. A new facility will allow Covenant House to expand its programming and serve our increasing number of kids in an environment that better meets their health and safety needs. Covenant House will continue to maintain the programming expenses associated with the building relocation.

COMMENTS:

Covenant House Inc. has invested over \$21 million in cash contributions towards homeless services in the State of Alaska. All dollars were privately raised by individual donors throughout the "lower 48" and provided to Alaska as a subsidy to meet the essential health and safety needs of our kids. Covenant House needs the State of Alaska as a strong partner for this support to continue and improve services to Alaska youth. Covenant House intends to leverage the state funding 2:1 from private and federal sources. This is in addition to the operating funds raised by Covenant House which total more than \$3.5 million a year.

JUSTIFICATION:

In the last three years the Covenant House Crisis Center experienced a 58% increase in our average daily census. The program is sorely in need of additional space if Covenant House is going to continue to meet the needs of youth in Alaska. If Covenant House is unsuccessful in its efforts to build a larger facility, its current level of service will be decreased due to a lack of adequate space. The new facility will have more beds, a separate intake room, private space for families, counseling offices, increased services through our health clinic and increased programming space. The relocation of the facility will enhance Covenant House's capacity to meet a critical State need: providing effective housing and social service solutions for homeless and runaway youth; services which in turn lessen Alaska's rate of youth violence, gang activity, drug and alcohol abuse, incarceration, and school drop out.

(000s)

FUNDING FORECAST	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total
9331 - Federal Revenue - Direct	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	5,000
9825 - State Grant Revenue - Direct	10,000	0	0	0	0	0	10,000
9999 - Other Sources	7,000	0	0	0	0	0	7,000
Project Total	22,000	0	0	0	0	0	22,000

Legislative District(s)**House:** District 50-Anchorage Areawide**Community Council(s):** Areawide

CONTACT PERSON: Mary Jane Michael, Executive Director; Office of Economic & Community Development; 343-4365;
michaelmj@muni.org



COVENANT HOUSE ALASKA

CRISIS CENTER • COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER • TRANSITIONAL LIVING

December 12, 2007

Senator Johnny Ellis
716 West 4th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Senator Ellis,

Attached please find information regarding Covenant House Alaska's Relocation and Enhancement Project. We would like to enlist your support for our project and work together to enhance the quality of care for our homeless youth.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our project.

Sincerely,

Deirdre A. Cronin
Executive Director

Hope

We give youth a sense of hope - and they find the courage and strength to move on to a better place.

Courage.

Covenant House Enhancement & Relocation

Project Description:

Covenant House Alaska is a private, non-profit agency that has provided services for homeless, runaway and at-risk youth ages 13 to 20 since 1988. Our programming includes a 40 bed emergency shelter, 24 beds for transitional housing and a Community Services Center that offers walk-in services daily to over 45 youth offering assistance with education, employment and health care. **Covenant House Inc. (our parent organization) has invested over \$21 million in cash contributions towards homeless services in the State of Alaska. All dollars were privately raised by individual donors throughout the "lower 48" and provided to Alaska as a subsidy to meet the essential health and safety needs of our kids. For this support to continue the State of Alaska must partner with us in an effort to better serve Alaska's youth.**

Funding this request will assist to relocate, and construct a new Crisis Center for Covenant House in downtown Anchorage. A new facility will allow Covenant House to expand its programming and serve our increasing number of kids in an environment that better meets their health and safety needs. We will continue to maintain the programming expenses associated with the building relocation.

Project Purpose and Need:

In the last three years our Crisis Center experienced a 58% increase in our average daily census. Our program is sorely in need of additional space if we are going to continue to meet the needs of youth in Alaska. If we are unsuccessful in our quest for a larger facility, our current level of service, which the State of Alaska benefits from, will be decreased due to a lack of adequate space. In Fiscal Year 2007, 3,165 youth received services at Covenant House.

This new facility will have more beds, a separate intake room, private space for families, counseling offices, increased services through our health clinic and increased programming space. The relocation of the facility will enhance Covenant House's capacity to meet a critical State need: providing effective housing and social service solutions for homeless and runaway youth; services which in turn lessen Alaska's rate of youth violence, gang activity, drug and alcohol abuse, incarceration, and school drop out.

Development Plan and Status:

A preliminary construction study and cost analysis has been prepared by Hickel Construction and Engineering, Inc. and a preliminary building design completed by the Koonce Pfeffer Bettis architectural firm. Covenant House Alaska has invested \$60,000 of privately raised money into this project.

Cost and Financial Data:

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Project Costs

Design	\$1,465,472
Construction	14,654,720
Project management	300,000
Furnishings & Fixtures	400,000
Relocation Costs	150,000
Project contingency	1,686,519
Land costs	<u>3,400,000</u>
	\$22,056,711

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Financial Data/Revenue

Federal Grants	
HUD	\$385,000
Community Development Block Grant	\$384,000
Federal Grant Request	4,000,000
*State Legislative Request	10,000,000
Covenant House/Private Foundation Grants	<u>7,287,711</u>
	\$22,056,711

Contact Information: Deirdre A. Cronin, Executive Director
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(907) 339-4203



COVENANT HOUSE ALASKA

CRISIS CENTER • COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER • TRANSITIONAL LIVING

November 20, 2007

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The Honorable Sarah Palin

Governor of Alaska

Third Floor

P.O. Box 110001

Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Dear Governor Palin,

First let me say thank you for the leadership you've demonstrated this past week in the special session. We are proud of you and believe Alaska is benefiting greatly from your administration.

That being said, Covenant House Alaska is requesting state financial assistance in relocating and upgrading our youth crisis facility. The project is a union of private contributions with partial public matching funds. Covenant House assists the State of Alaska in meeting the essential health and safety needs of our youth.

We are requesting \$10 million in this year's capital budget to help fund this project estimated at over \$22 million when completed.

Our work at Covenant House complements your budget goals:

- **Slow the Growth of Government:** Covenant House saves the state money. If we were not here, the responsibility of the kids we serve would fall on the Department of Health and Human Services or the Department of Juvenile Justice.
- **Live Within our Means:** Covenant House Inc. (our parent organization) has invested \$21M in Alaska over 20 years. This year, they will invest \$1M in our youth. In addition, we will leverage the State investment with Federal and private funding.
- **Save for the Future:** Providing youth with options for employment and education invests in them becoming contributing members of our State. This is a better option then providing services for them in the adult homeless system or detention system in the future.

Hope

We give youth a sense of hope - and they find the courage and strength to move on to a better place.

Courage.

Attached is a more detailed project description and budget consisting of a mix of federal, state and private funding. We hope to be included in your Capital Budget.

We are part of the solution for meeting basic government services for life, health, public safety and education.

Covenant House Alaska is an independent non-profit organization that provides services for runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth. We offer emergency services 24 hours a day/7 days a week at no cost to the kids and families. We are the only organization of its kind in Alaska, and we have served our homeless youth population with great success for almost 20 years.

We look forward to meeting with you and discussing the project in more detail. If you have any questions in the meantime, feel free to contact me at (907) 339-4203.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Deirdre Cronin".

Deirdre A. Cronin
Executive Director

Cc: Karen J. Rehfeld, OMB Director
Karleen K. Jackson, Commissioner DHSS



ALASKA

FY07 AT A GLANCE

Covenant House Alaska serves homeless and at-risk youth. We maintain an open intake policy, which means no youth is ever turned away. There are no fees for our services and we provide these services without regard to ethnicity, religious affiliation, gender, or physical challenge. Covenant House Alaska provides an opportunity for youth to leave the streets, find a job, learn valuable life skills, finish school, reunite with family and make steps toward a life filled with confidence, self-sufficiency, and independence.

Through a relationship of respect and support, the staff and volunteers at Covenant House Alaska give youth a sense of hope and they find the courage to move on to a better place.

CRISIS CENTER: 609 F STREET

- A 40 bed residential facility providing short-term shelter, food, clothing, case management, family mediation, health care services, and employment and educational assistance.
Serves youth ages 13-20
Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week

COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER: 750 W. 5TH AVE.

- A Drop-in center that provides case management, on-site health care, educational tutoring, testing and referrals, employment assistance, counseling and substance abuse referrals, life skills training, relationship groups, transportation assistance, and phone and mail services
Serves youth 13-20

TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAMS:

- A 24 bed, long term residential care program designed to help youth transition to independent living and self-sufficiency. Youth can participate in the program for 18 months with up to 12 months of additional aftercare.

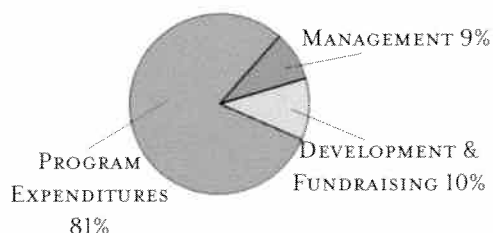
RIGHTS OF PASSAGE: 750 W. 5TH AVE.

A 14 bed residential program for homeless youth ages 18-20.

PASSAGE HOUSE:

A 10 bed residential program providing services to pregnant and parenting women ages 17-20, and their children.

FY 08 BUDGET: \$3,563,957



Number of youth served 3,165

CRISIS CENTER

YOUTH SERVED	1,334
AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY	15 DAYS
YOUTH SERVED UNDER 18	37%
YOUTH SERVED 18 AND OVER	63%
NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED	24,625

RIGHTS OF PASSAGE

YOUTH SERVED	34
AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY	8 MONTHS
DAYS AT CAPACITY	365
RATE OF EMPLOYMENT	93%

PASSAGE HOUSE

NUMBER OF MOMS/MOMS-TO-BE	12
NUMBER OF BABIES	12
AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY	6 MONTHS
RATE OF EMPLOYMENT	60%

COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

1,502 YOUTH RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 26,604 SERVICES.
AVERAGE 45 YOUTH PER DAY

ETHNICITY PERCENTAGES (FOR ALL PROGRAMS)

AK NATIVE/AMERICAN INDIAN	39%
CAUCASIAN	33%
AFRICAN-AMERICAN	11%
HISPANIC	3%
ASIAN	3%
OTHER	10%

VOLUNTEER SERVICES - We utilize volunteers throughout all our programs. Last year more than 200 volunteers provided us with 3900 hours of service.

MENTORS - We try to match each transitional living program resident with an adult mentor. These volunteer mentors fulfill a key role in the lives of our youth as role models and trusted advisors.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES - All youth have access to our health care services. Medical consultation and community referrals are provided to address the physical needs of our youth.

ADVOCACY - We are committed to raising the awareness of legislators and the public at large and seek to improve the lives of families and young people.

YOUTH ENRICHMENT - We promote the positive development of youth by engaging them in civic involvement, youth leadership, community volunteer and internship opportunities.

PASTORAL SERVICES - Pastoral Ministry aims to help youth find answers to faith questions through education, listening, discussion of values, guidance and patience.

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION ASSISTANCE - We help youth find jobs, maintain employment, and attain their educational and professional goals.

Covenant House Alaska

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September 2007

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Hope
We give words a name of hope and then find the courage and strength to move on to a better place.
Courage.